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Marcia Wilhite Chief, Bureau of Water Illinois Environmental Protection Agency 1021 N. Grand Avenue East/P.O. Box 19276 Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Dear Ms. Wilhite,

Following our phone conversation a few weeks ago, CMAP would like to continue to work cooperatively with Illinois EPA as you consider revisions to the Facility Planning Area (FPA) process in Northeastern Illinois.

Pursuant to Section 208(a) of the Clean Water Act, Governor Walker designated CMAP's predecessor, the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC) as the areawide planning agency for water quality management planning activities in the northeastern Illinois region. (Governor Walker Executive Order, May 13, 1975). Public Act 095-0677 transferred NIPC's responsibilities to CMAP, including those responsibilities under the Clean Water Act. As such, Illinois EPA's decision may impact CMAP's designated role. Therefore, CMAP respectfully requests Illinois EPA's guidance on the following matters:

- What legal and administrative path will Illinois EPA follow to disband the current FPA process?
- Assuming the current review process will be replaced with a watershed based approach, what steps will Illinois EPA pursue to ensure a smooth transition from the FPA process to a watershed based process?

In addition to its role under the Clean Water Act, CMAP needs to consider the impact of your proposal on our review process and requirements, as well as the role of the Wastewater Committee, also created by Public Act 095-0677. The agency respectfully requests a response as soon as possible. Following your response, we would also like to schedule another conference call or meeting to discuss this in more detail. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Kopec

Deputy Executive Director, Planning and Programming